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LOS ANGELES

De Lorean's attorneys win access to government documents

A federal judge has ordered the FBI, CIA and more than a half dozen other government agencies to give John De Lorean's attorneys all documents sought by the automaker in advance of his cocaine conspiracy trial.

U.S. District Judge Robert Takasugi issued 51 orders for documents to be handed over for private inspection by the court, it was disclosed Thursday. Attorneys for De Lorean had previously been denied access to the records.

Named in the orders were the Drug Enforcement Administration, Army Intelligence, the National Security Council, the Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Customs, the Justice Department, the State Department and the Defense Intelligence Agency of the Pentagon.

De Lorean faces an October trial on charges he bankrolled a deal to obtain and distribute cocaine last year in an effort to save his failing Northern Ireland sports car firm.

De Lorean's defense is expected to be based in part on a claim that the government lured him into the drug deal.

The automaker's lawyers have also said they suspect there may have been communication between the British and U.S. governments about De Lorean, and that some of the information may have passed through intelligence channels.

The government denied the accusations of entrapment, saying De Lorean approached a paid informant and said he wanted to earn up to \$60 million through cocaine and heroin sales to save his company, which produced a sleek gull-winged sports car before it failed.

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